

SYSTEM AND METHOD OF CONTEXT-SPECIFIC SEARCHING IN AN ELECTRONIC DATABASE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[102] A user can search a database within a “context” that can be invoked with a context term, or name. The context is pre-defined by a human expert, or curator. The context definition is used in conjunction with a search term provided by the user to efficiently obtain search results that can otherwise be difficult to attain, such as detecting characteristics of data over multiple documents or other database items to infer trends, phenomena, characteristics, or other properties of the data. A context can be a category of items where each item has a distinct name. Search results are presented using the context based on the number of co-occurrences of the search term and terms relating to the context. In a preferred embodiment, the search results are presented as a list with documents having higher co-occurrences ordered at the top of the list. Context definition sets can be created and updated as an ongoing service to a subscriber. Several processing configurations are presented.